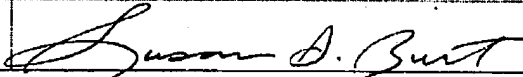


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Name (Print/Type)	Susan G. Burt	Fax # (if faxed)	(703)305-7718
Signature		Date	September 16, 2003

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)	
Mohamed S. M. Shakur, et al.)	Attorney Docket No. 106290
Application No. 09/973,393)	Examiner: Charles S. Bushey
Filed: October 9, 2001)	Group Art Unit: 1724
MULTIPLE DOWNCOMER)	
FRACTIONAL DISTILLATION)	
TRAY AND PROCESS)	

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AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

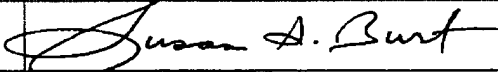
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of May 16, 2003, please amend the above identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION			
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<i>Name (Print/Type)</i>	Susan G. Burt	<i>Fax # (if faxed)</i>	(703) 872-9306
<i>Signature</i>		<i>Date</i>	November 25, 2003

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)	
Mohamed S. M. Shakur, et al.)	Attorney Docket No. 106290
Application No. 09/973,393)	Examiner: Charles S. Bushey
Filed: October 9, 2001)	Group Art Unit: 1724
MULTIPLE DOWNCOMER)	
FRACTIONAL DISTILLATION)	
TRAY AND PROCESS)	

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S TELEPHONE INQUIRY

Commissioner for Patents
 P. O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants appreciate Examiner Bushey's telephone inquiry of November 25, 2003, regarding the above application. As requested, Applicants hereby resubmit the Amendment and Request for Reconsideration and corresponding Request for Extension of Time responsive to the Office Action dated May 16, 2003.

Applicants respectfully assert that these papers were complete, timely and properly submitted to the Office on September 16, 2003, via facsimile as evidenced by the following attached documents.

- A copy of the Amendment and Request for Reconsideration responsive to the May 16, 2003, Office Action, bearing a Certificate of Transmission / Mailing dated September 16, 2003, signed by Susan G. Burt (8 pages).
- A copy of the Request for Extension of Time responsive to the May 16, 2003, Office Action, bearing a Certificate of Transmission / Mailing dated September 16, 2003, signed by Susan G. Burt (1 page).
- A copy of the Fee Transmittal and the Credit Card Payment forms (1 page each).
- A copy of the Associate Power of Attorney, signed by Frank S. Molinaro, bearing a Certificate of Transmission / Mailing dated September 16, 2003, signed by Susan G. Burt (1 page).
- A copy of the Transmittal form for the above indicating 13 pages in the submission signed by David J. Piasecki and bearing a Certificate of Transmission / Mailing dated September 16, 2003, signed by Susan G. Burt (1 page).
- A copy of the transmission report (TX REPORT) from Applicant's facsimile machine showing that the 13 pages were transmitted at 09:36 hours on September 16.

Based on the above evidence, Applicants courteously request that the attached papers be entered and acted upon as they were originally properly submitted on September 16, 2003. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims in the application is respectfully requested in the Amendment and Request for Reconsideration

Respectfully submitted,

UOP LLC



David J. Piasecki

Reg. No. 53,467

Phone: (847) 391-3146

Fax: (847) 391-2387

DJP:sb

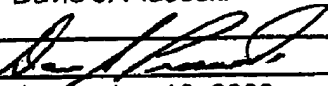
 *** TX REPORT ***

TRANSMISSION OK

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 ST. TIME 09/16 09:36
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 RESULT OK

PTO/SB/21 (11-03)
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 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM <small>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</small>	Application Number	09/973,393	
	Filing Date	10/09/2001	
	First Named Inventor	Mohamed S.M. Shakur	
	Art Unit	1724	
	Examiner Name	Charles S. Bushey	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	13	Attorney Docket Number	106290

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Remarks		
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm or Individual	David J. Piasecki	
Signature		
Date	September 16, 2003	

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as PAGE 5/17 * RCVD AT 11/25/2003 3:33:46 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/6 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:847 391 2387 * DURATION (mm-ss):07-48

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 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/973,393	
	Filing Date	10/09/2001	
	First Named Inventor	Mohamed S.M. Shakur	
	Art Unit	1724	
	Examiner Name	Charles S. Bushey	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	17	Attorney Docket Number	106290

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ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Response to Examiner's Telephone Inquiry & attachments itemized in response.
Remarks		

NOV 25 2003

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	David J. Piasecki
Signature	<i>David J. Piasecki</i>
Date	November 25, 2003

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Typed or printed name	Susan G. Burt		
Signature	<i>Susan G. Burt</i>	Date	Nov. 25, 2003

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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FEE TRANSMITTAL		<i>Complete if Known</i>		
for FY 2003		Application Number	09/973,393	
<small>Effective 01/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.</small>		Filing Date	10/09/2001	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27		First Named Inventor	Mohamed S.M. Shakur	
		Examiner Name	Charles S. Bushey	
		Art Unit	1724	
TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT	(\$)	110	Attorney Docket No.	106290

<p>METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Credit card <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Deposit Account:</p> <p>Deposit Account Number: _____</p> <p>Deposit Account Name: _____</p> <p>The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below <input type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayments</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">FEE CALCULATION</p> <p>1. BASIC FILING FEE</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Large Entity Fee Code (\$)</th> <th>Small Entity Fee Code (\$)</th> <th>Fee Description</th> <th>Fee Paid</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1001 750</td><td>2001 375</td><td>Utility filing fee</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1002 330</td><td>2002 165</td><td>Design filing fee</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1003 520</td><td>2003 260</td><td>Plant filing fee</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1004 750</td><td>2004 375</td><td>Reissue filing fee</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1005 160</td><td>2005 80</td><td>Provisional filing fee</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: right;">SUBTOTAL (1)</td><td>(\$)</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE</p> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Total Claims</th> <th>Extra Claims</th> <th>Fee from below</th> <th>Fee Paid</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Independent Claims</td> <td>-20** =</td> <td>18</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Multiple Dependent Claims</td> <td>-3** =</td> <td>84</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Large Entity Fee Code (\$)</th> <th>Small Entity Fee Code (\$)</th> <th>Fee Description</th> <th>Fee Paid</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1202 18</td><td>2202 9</td><td>Claims in excess of 20</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1201 84</td><td>2201 42</td><td>Independent claims in excess of 3</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1203 280</td><td>2203 140</td><td>Multiple dependent claim, if not paid</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1204 84</td><td>2204 42</td><td>** Reissue independent claims over original patent</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1205 18</td><td>2205 9</td><td>** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: right;">SUBTOTAL (2)</td><td>(\$)</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><small>**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above</small></p>	Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid	1001 750	2001 375	Utility filing fee		1002 330	2002 165	Design filing fee		1003 520	2003 260	Plant filing fee		1004 750	2004 375	Reissue filing fee		1005 160	2005 80	Provisional filing fee		SUBTOTAL (1)			(\$)	Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid	Independent Claims	-20** =	18		Multiple Dependent Claims	-3** =	84		Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid	1202 18	2202 9	Claims in excess of 20		1201 84	2201 42	Independent claims in excess of 3		1203 280	2203 140	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid		1204 84	2204 42	** Reissue independent claims over original patent		1205 18	2205 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent		SUBTOTAL (2)			(\$)	<p>FEE CALCULATION (continued)</p> <p>3. 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unavoidable</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1453 1,300</td><td>2453 650</td><td>Petition to revive - unintentional</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1501 1,300</td><td>2501 650</td><td>Utility issue fee (or reissue)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1502 470</td><td>2502 235</td><td>Design issue fee</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1503 630</td><td>2503 315</td><td>Plant issue fee</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1460 130</td><td>1460 130</td><td>Petitions to the Commissioner</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1807 50</td><td>1807 50</td><td>Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1806 180</td><td>1806 180</td><td>Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>8021 40</td><td>8021 40</td><td>Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1809 750</td><td>2809 375</td><td>Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1810 750</td><td>2810 375</td><td>For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1801 750</td><td>2801 375</td><td>Request for Continued Examination (RCE)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>1802 900</td><td>1802 900</td><td>Request for expedited examination of a design application</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3">Other fee (specify) 1814 Statutory Disclaimer (\$110)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="3">SUBTOTAL (3)</td><td>(\$) 110</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><small>*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid</small></p>	Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid	1051 130	2051 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath		1052 50	2052 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet		1053 130	1053 130	Non-English specification		1812 2,520	1812 2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination		1804 920*	1804 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action		1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action		1251 110	2251 55	Extension for reply within first month	10	1252 410	2252 205	Extension for reply within second month		1253 930	2253 465	Extension for reply within third month		1254 1,450	2254 725	Extension for reply within fourth month		1255 1,970	2255 985	Extension for reply within fifth month		1401 320	2401 160	Notice of Appeal		1402 320	2402 160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal		1403 280	2403 140	Request for oral hearing		1451 1,510	1451 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding		1452 110	2452 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable		1453 1,300	2453 650	Petition to revive - unintentional		1501 1,300	2501 650	Utility issue fee (or reissue)		1502 470	2502 235	Design issue fee		1503 630	2503 315	Plant issue fee		1460 130	1460 130	Petitions to the Commissioner		1807 50	1807 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)		1806 180	1806 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt		8021 40	8021 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)		1809 750	2809 375	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))		1810 750	2810 375	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))		1801 750	2801 375	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)		1802 900	1802 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application		Other fee (specify) 1814 Statutory Disclaimer (\$110)				SUBTOTAL (3)			(\$) 110
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1453 1,300	2453 650	Petition to revive - unintentional																																																																																																																																																																																															
1501 1,300	2501 650	Utility issue fee (or reissue)																																																																																																																																																																																															
1502 470	2502 235	Design issue fee																																																																																																																																																																																															
1503 630	2503 315	Plant issue fee																																																																																																																																																																																															
1460 130	1460 130	Petitions to the Commissioner																																																																																																																																																																																															
1807 50	1807 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)																																																																																																																																																																																															
1806 180	1806 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt																																																																																																																																																																																															
8021 40	8021 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)																																																																																																																																																																																															
1809 750	2809 375	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))																																																																																																																																																																																															
1810 750	2810 375	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))																																																																																																																																																																																															
1801 750	2801 375	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)																																																																																																																																																																																															
1802 900	1802 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application																																																																																																																																																																																															
Other fee (specify) 1814 Statutory Disclaimer (\$110)																																																																																																																																																																																																	
SUBTOTAL (3)			(\$) 110																																																																																																																																																																																														

SUBMITTED BY		<i>(Complete if applicable)</i>	
Name (Print/Type)	David J. Piasecki	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	53,467
Signature		Telephone	847-391-3146
		Date	September 16, 2003

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